

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A food dehydrator comprising, in combination:

a base with a rectangular configuration including a rectangular bottom face having a side wall coupled to a periphery of the bottom face and extending upwardly therefrom for defining a rectangular upper peripheral edge and an interior space, the side wall defined by a pair of short end faces and a pair of elongated side faces, the side wall having an arcuate inner wall defining a portion of a cylinder mounted therein between the end faces of the base, wherein each of the faces have an input vent and an output vent formed therein adjacent to the bottom face of the base;

a cover including a pair of side faces each with a semicircular configuration and an arcuate top face defining a portion of a cylinder similar to that defined by the arcuate inner wall of the base, the cover further including a lower peripheral edge being removably situated over the base in engagement with the upper peripheral edge of the base for defining a compartment;

a fan assembly including a bottom fan mounted to the bottom face of the base adjacent to the input vent for directing air through the base and toward the output vent upon actuation and a plurality of upright fan assemblies each including a tube connected between vents formed in the bottom face and the inner wall of the base, each tube having a lower vertical extent and an upper arcuate extent such

that the associated fan directs air in a first rotational direction along the inner wall of the base upon actuation, the fan assembly further including a plurality of circularly configured fans each mounted to the top face of the cover and the inner wall of the base within the compartment for directing air in the first rotational direction upon the actuation thereof;

heating means mounted over the vents formed in the inner wall of the base, the heating assembly including a pair of arcuate side conductors with a plurality of linear laterally situated heating elements mounted therebetween for creating heat upon the actuation thereof;

a rotisserie assembly situated within the compartment and including an axle rotatably mounted between central extents of the side faces of the base adjacent to the upper peripheral edge thereof, two sets of radially extending arms each having an inboard end coupled to a corresponding end of the axle and residing in a common plane, a pair of annular members each coupled to outboard ends of the radially extending arms of an associated one of the sets, and a plurality of trays each rotatably mounted between a pair of the radially extending arms, wherein the rotisserie has a motor for rotating the trays about the axle in a second rotational direction opposite the first rotational direction upon the actuation thereof;

a thermostat situated within the compartment for detecting a temperature therein; and

a control panel mounted on one of the side faces of the base with a display for displaying a current temperature within the

compartment and actuating the heating means and the motor of the rotisserie for a predetermined time period, wherein the heating means is governed so as to remain below a preset temperature.

2. A food dehydrator comprising:

a base with an interior space;

food supporting means for supporting food thereon within the interior space of the base;

heating means for generating heat within the interior space of the base; and

air circulation means for circulating air about the food;

wherein the food supporting means and air circulation means move with respect to each other.

3. A food dehydrator as set forth in claim 2 wherein the food supporting means moves with respect to the base and the air circulation means remains fixed with respect to the base.

4. A food dehydrator as set forth in claim 2 wherein the base includes a cover for defining a compartment, wherein the cover has at least one air circulation means mounted thereon.

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5. A food dehydrator as set forth in claim 2 wherein the food support means includes a ferris wheel.
6. A food dehydrator as set forth in claim 2 wherein a timer controls the air circulation means and the food support means.
7. A food dehydrator as set forth in claim 2 wherein the air circulation means circulates air between an interior and exterior of the base.
8. A food dehydrator as set forth in claim 2 wherein the air circulation means directs air in a direction opposite to movement of the food support means.
9. A food oven comprising:
 - a base with an interior space;
 - food supporting means for supporting food thereon within the interior space of the base; and
 - heating means for generating heat within the interior space of the base;
 - wherein the food support means includes a ferris wheel with food supports which are rotatably coupled thereto.

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